

Lundberg Bakery
1006 Congress Avenue
Austin
Travis County
Texas

HABS No. TX-3267

HABS,
TEX,
227-AUST,
19-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
LUNDBERG BAKERY

HABS NO. TX-3267

Location: 1006 Congress Avenue, Austin, Travis County, Texas.
USGS Austin East Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator
Coordinates: 14.621080.3349410.

Present Owner: State of Texas
Texas Highway Department
11th and Brazos Streets
Austin, Texas

Present Occupant: Vacant.

Significance: The Lundberg Bakery is an important commercial and historical landmark in Austin. Built in 1875-76, it first housed the successful bakery business of Charles Lundberg, and continued to be used as a bakery until 1937. Located within one block of both the Texas State Capitol and the Governor's Mansion, the restored Victorian structure makes a significant visual contribution to the Capitol Area.

PART I: HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1875-1876.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structure stands. Reference is to the Clerk's Office of the County of Travis, Texas.

1874 Deed December 17, 1874, recorded December 19, 1874 in
Volume 28, pages 107-108.
Ernst Raven and wife
to
Charles Lundberg.
North half of lot 2 in block 124.

1909 Affidavit April 20, 1909, recorded April 23, 1909, in
Volume 226, page 485.
Relates that Charles Lundberg died intestate on February 7,
1895.

1909 Deed April 22, 1909, recorded April 23, 1909, in Volume
226, pages 489-491.

Anna Lundberg, widow
to
George Siglhofer

- 1915 Deed December 21, 1915, recorded December 30, 1915, in
Volume 281, pages 18-20.
George Siglhofer and wife Anna
to
William Bohn and Hermann Bohn.
- 1918 Will written March 17, 1914, filed October 23, 1918
William Bohn
to
wife, Bertha
- 1919 Deed February 15, 1919, recorded February 19, 1919, in
Volume 306, pages 438-440.
Hermann Bohn and Mrs Bertha Bohn
to
Adolph Kohn
- 1919 Deed March 4, 1919, recorded March 12, 1919 in Volume 307,
pages 63-64.
Adolph Kohn and wife Mollie
to
H. A. Wroe.
Wroe was acting as Trustee for "an organization which
contemplates the erection of hotel on part of said Block
No. 124."
- 1920 Deed March 6, 1920, recorded March 16, 1920 in Volume 317,
pages 450-451.
H. A. Wroe, Trustee
to
Will C. Hogg.
Wroe was acting "as trustee in behalf of an organization
known as the Hogg-Wroe Hotel Syndicate."
- 1922 Deed December 26, 1922, recorded December 30, 1922 in
Volume 343, pages 535-536.
W. C. Hogg
to
Carl Belisch
- 1927 Will written May 27, 1924, filed July 6, 1927.
Carl Belish
to
Wife, Lillie.

- 1945 Will written May 27, 1924, filed November 21, 1945.
Lillie Belisch
to
Husband, but if he is deceased, to two children, Goldie
Miriam Sarazan and Marjorie Hirshfeld Hall.
- 1963 Deed October 12, 1963, recorded October 23, 1963, in Volume
2680, pages 252-253.
Marjory Belisch Hall (also Marjorie Hirshfeld Hall) of
Duchess County, New York
to
The Heritage Society of Austin, Texas, Inc.
- 1970 Deed February 10, 1970, recorded February 16, 1970, Volume
3814, pages 1623-1624.

The Heritage Society of Austin, Inc.
to
The State of Texas "for the use and benefit of the State
Highway Department."

4. Builders, suppliers:

- a. Builder: Anton Schaefer. On November 5, 1875, Charles
Lundberg and Anton Schaefer signed two mechanic's liens as
regulated by the state legislature. Lundberg promised to pay
Schaefer \$400 and \$300 "for material and labor furnished me
upon my store building." (Recorded in the Clerk's Office of
the County of Travis, November 11, 1875, is Volume 30, page
504-505.) According to a marginal notation, Lundberg
satisfied the \$300 lien and was released on April 6, 1886.
Schaefer was not listed in the Austin City directories at the
time. The second release was not made until March 13, 1909,
when Schaefer, then living in Haskell County, acknowledged
payment for material and labor he furnished "upon the
improvements consisting of the store building of said Chas
Lundberg." (Recorded March 25, 1909, in Volume 226, page
276.)

The stone eagle cresting the building was carved by John
Didelot(e) who was listed as a stone cutter in the 1877-78
city directory.

- b. Suppliers: Anton Schaefer, according to the mechanic's
liens, furnished "materials," but these were not specified.
5. Original plans and construction: No original plans have been
located, but contemporary newspaper accounts give brief
references to the structure when first built. "Mr. Krohn and
Mr. Lundberg are to erect two stores, 21 X 55 feet each,

adjoining the Krohn building at the upper end of the Avenue." (Daily Democratic Statesman, March 26, 1876.)

Early photographs show that an iron canopy, the width of the building and supported by thin columns, extended over the sidewalk. The second-story open balcony was enclosed with an iron railing.

6. Alterations and additions:

As reported by the Austin newspaper, Lundberg made alterations to his bakery shortly after it was built. On March 31, 1880, the Daily Democratic Statesman announced that Lundberg "is having an immense bake oven built, and when finished, (it) will be the largest in Texas." A few days later, the paper was given a tour by Lundberg, "who has thoroughly renovated and repaired his ice cream parlor, and who has also had a mammoth bake oven built of a capacity to turn out 1200 loaves easy at one bake." (Daily Democratic Statesman, April 4, 1880.)

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

According to an obituary written in 1895, Charles Lundberg had "conducted the largest and most successful bakery in Austin" at his Congress Avenue shop. Lundberg, who was born in Sweden, came to Austin via New Orleans where he is believed to have learned the baker's trade. On February 29, 1872, he paid \$3000 for N. Hanson's business "as Baker and Confectioner," including "store, cellar, warehouse, and bakery, etc." Two years later, in December, 1874, Lundberg purchased the north half of lot 2 in block 124 and commenced building, sometime in 1875, his shop at 1006 Congress Avenue. The New Orleans Bakery, as it was called by the time of 1879-80 city directory, was a popular place for Austinites. On April 23, 1881, the Daily Democratic Statesman mentioned that "Mr. Lundberg's ice cream parlors are the favorite places of resort just now," and on September 3, 1881, referred to "the popular baker at the head of the Avenue." Lundberg's bakery was in an advantageous location, just across the street from both the Travis County Courthouse and the building which served as the temporary State Capitol during the 1880s.

After Lundberg's death in 1895, the building continued to house independent bakers. From the late 1930s to the early 1960s, it was used by a variety of businesses. In 1963, the Heritage Society of Austin acquired the then deteriorating and vacant structure. Restored through the combined efforts of the Society, the Junior League of Austin and the Austin Heritage Guild, it was opened in 1964 as a tourist information center, museum, curio

shop, and snack bar. Since the Texas Highway Department purchased the property in 1970, it has been vacant and its use by the State undetermined.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old Views:
Austin State Capital of Texas. Drawn by Augustus Koch, 1887.
2. Primary and unpublished sources:

Austin City Directories, 1872-73 to present, Austin-Travis County Collection, Austin Public Library.

Austin Newspaper, Austin-Travis County Collection, Austin Public Library.

Travis County Deed Books, Travis County Courthouse, Austin, Texas.
3. Secondary and published sources:

Biographical File, Charles Lundburg, and Building File, Old Bakery, Austin-Travis County Collection, Austin Public Library.

Texas Historical Survey Committee, Marker File and National Register File.

Williamson, Roxanne Kuter. "Victorian Architecture in Austin." M.A. thesis, the University of Texas, Austin, Texas 1967.

Prepared by:
Ellen Beasley
Project Historian
National Park Service
August 1973

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Charles Lundberg built this commercial building in 1876 to house his bakery and ice-cream parlor. The street facade is distinctive with its sculptured eagle surmounting a polychromatic facade of arched openings.

2. Condition of fabric: The party walls are sound, but the wood floor structure and flooring of the second level are in a bad state of repair.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: 21' - 5" across its three-bay front by 158' - 8" deep. It was built on a sloping hillside site; the early (1876) front section and the first addition (1880) are two stories. The later rear addition is at a higher level, a split-level, one-story portion.
2. Foundations: Mortared rubble stone masonry down to bed rock.
3. Wall construction: The front wall is constructed of a light gray-buff brick, trimmed with cut limestone. The south party wall is mortared stone masonry. The north wall is of mixed material; the two early portions are of stone masonry, then a section is of brick masonry and the west portion of the wall is again of stone masonry. Interior cross walls are of stone masonry.
4. Structural system, framing: The ceiling of the original (front) room was spanned with 2 X 12's but later light steel beams, about 4' on center were added; these beams are encased in wood. The second room (baking area) has central 6" X 6" wood post carrying a longitudinal 6" X 10" wood beam on which the floor joists rest. The gable roof over the original (1876) portion is constructed with simple braced trusses of 2 X 4 rafters and 2 X 6 tie beam. The remaining portions of the roof are flat with the usual wood joist construction.
5. Balcony: There is a narrow, decorative metal balcony across the front at the second level.
6. Chimneys: Old photos show metal flues above the roof. The main chimney for the baking ovens is no longer in place.
7. Openings: On the front facade, the street-level openings are topped with segmental arches of brick with keys of cut limestone. Each opening has a large fixed glass transom. The center opening has a pair of 2' - 4" X 9' - 0" wood doors, glazed with large single-paned glass. On either side the glazed windows and panels are of a design similar to the central door.

The openings on the second floor are round-arched with voussoirs that are alternately brick and limestone in a Gothic pattern, slightly pointed. The central pair of doors has ten panes

each. The second-story windows have large double-hung single-light sash. Windows on the north walls are typical double-hung type.

8. Roof: Over the front early portion there is gable roof (6 in 12 slope) with parapet-type masonry gables, front and rear. The front brick gable is topped with a cut-limestone coping, a sculptured eagle, and a flagpole, and on either side there are slender urn-like forms of cast stone reinforced with steel bars.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans:

- a. First floor: The original (front) room was used as an ice cream parlor and a sales room for the bakery. The long room has an offset on the north side with windows on the light well. Later a small one-story addition filled this lightwell and provided two spaces for bathrooms, and a space for an air-conditioning unit (recently added). The next room, the baking area (added in 1880) is at a higher level, up eight steps. In the center of the rather long room there is a 4 X 4 turned wood post. On the back (west) wall the built-in ovens were constructed, built in to the hillside. The lower firebox opening is bricked up; the central opening to the oven space has a cast-iron door. Through a pass way and up eleven steps there is a "split level" space that was used for storage of supplies. This long room has a large double door to the rear alley; apparently it permitted small trucks to enter.
 - b. Second floor: Above the two front first-floor rooms, the sales and baking areas, there are two large second-story rooms which were used as living quarters. In each of these rooms there are windows to the north.
2. Stairways: For the original structure there was a stairway, possibly in the lightwell. Now access to the second floor is by means of a series of concrete steps up to and through the split-level storage room.
 3. Flooring: In the sales room and baking area the floors are of 8" X 8" red-brown semi-glazed clay tile. The rear storage room is floored with concrete. The second level has wood flooring 6" in width.
 4. Wall and ceiling finish: Portions of the party walls interiors are natural stone, painted; other areas have a daubed plaster finish, painted white. Ceiling of the front room has steel beams covered with dark-stained wood; between the beams the old

pressed-metal ceiling remains. In the baking room there is a ceiling of pressed metal. The party walls of the rear storage room are unpainted edge stone masonry. The walls of the second floor rooms are plaster painted white. The ceilings of these rooms are exposed wood structural trusses. There is evidence that the wood laths of a plastered ceiling have been recently removed.

5. Heating and air conditioning: The original heating was by wood-fired metal stoves; now the two lower rooms are heated and cooled by a forced-air central unit that is built into a closet space.

D. Site:

This was originally one of a series of one and two-story commercial buildings on upper Congress Avenue near the Texas Capitol Building and the Governor's Mansion. It is now an isolated structure facing east on the sloping hillside block; it is probable that the block will be developed into a park area.

Prepared by:
Melvin M. Rotsch, Architect
Texas A & M University
National Parks Service
August 1973

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

The project was jointly sponsored by the National Park Service and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Recorded under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, the project was completed during the summer of 1973 at the HABS field office at the University of Texas, Austin. Project supervisor was Melvin M. Rotsch (architect, Texas A & M University); project historian was Ellen Beasley; student architects were J. Tucker Bishop (University of Texas), Stephen J. Farneth (Carnegie-Mellon University), Robert D. Ferland (Cornell University), Carl J. Frenning (University of Pennsylvania), Richard W. Schreiber (Boston Architectural Center), and David J. Yturralde (University of Texas). Photographs were taken in 1974 by Roy Pledger.